

Amend claim 10 as follows:

A² 10. (amended) A composition according to claim 9, comprising a phytosterol selected from the group consisting of sitosterol, stigmasterol, ergosterol, campesterol, avenasterol, brassicasterol, desmosterol, chalinosterol, poriferasterol, clionasterol sitostanol, stigmastanol and campestanol.

Amend claim 13 as follows:

A³ 13. (amended) A composition according to claim 12, wherein the composition capable of increasing cholesterol metabolism is derived from a plant or plant part selected from the group consisting of *Polygonum multiflorum*, *Polygonum cuspidatum*, *Curcuma* spp., *Ligusticum* spp., *Polygonatum* spp., *Corydalis* spp., *Chrysanthemum morifolium*, *Arthemisia capillaris* and *Acanthopanax senticosus*.

Amend claim 16 as follows:

A⁴ 16. (amended) A composition according to claim 15, wherein the component for the prevention and/or treatment of vascular disorders is selected from the group consisting of polyunsaturated fatty acids, antioxidants, phospholipids, folic acid, vitamin B12, vitamin B6, magnesium, coenzyme Q10 and zinc.